



MANATABA MESSENGER

A Publication of the Colorado River Indian Tribes

Volume IV Issue V

October, 2006

The best of Days for CRIT



(Above) A participant in one of the traditional dance and dress competitions during the Native American Days Pow Wow (courtesy of Valerie Welsh-Tahbo. (Right) The new CRIT Royalty attend the Native American Days festivities.

CRIT members enjoy festival, events

It was a celebration of CRIT culture and heritage over the weekend of October 6-8 during the 34th Annual Native American Days.

The celebration took place at Manataba Park and in locations throughout the community, and included a Pow Wow, a parade, a movie festival and other events. Thousands of people from the CRIT reservation and beyond attended the event.

For more pictures from Native American Days, please see Pages 6 and 7 of this issue.



Tribal Council elections to be held Dec. 2

Four Council seats up for public vote; candidate petitions due by Nov. 2

The Tribal Council has set the schedule for this year's Tribal Council elections.

The seats of Vice Chairman Russell Welsh and Councilmembers Eldred Enas, Sylvia "Cindy" Homer and Ray Aspa, Sr. are up for re-election. Aspa, Homer and Enas have announced that they will run for re-election.

At press time, Welsh was undecided. All terms are four years.

The following is the schedule approved by the Tribal Council for the upcoming Tribal elections, to take place on Saturday, December 2.

- Saturday, August 12 — Regular Tribal Council meeting to certify, by resolution, review the Election Ordinance, and Order Posting, 2006 General Election Schedule, Election Regulations, Election Budget, approve Notice of Election and Absentee Ballot Request. Selection of the 2006 Election Overseer.

- Friday, September 1 — Posting of Election Ordinance in the designated areas: Tribal Administrative Center, PHS Indian Hospital, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Irataba Hall, Parker Post Office, Poston Post Office.

- Monday, September 25 — Notice of Election mailed to Tribal membership with Absentee Ballot Request Form. Election Board applications are available.

- Monday, October 2 — Resignations of Council members who are candidates for Vice-Chairman. Chairman is designated to accept

Please see TRIBAL ELECTIONS, Page 4

Veteran's wait for medals rewarded

Receives Purple Heart after more than 50 years, search by U.S. Government

Wesley Schofield isn't the kind of person to make a big deal about things.

That's why, despite the fact that he was awarded a Purple Heart and other recognition for his service in the Korean War, the CRIT Tribal member didn't complain. Even when the medals didn't come.

And even after more than 50 years.

Apparently, the records of Schofield's military service were lost by the U.S. Government somewhere over the course of time. So despite the fact that he knew he had the recognition

coming to him, he didn't raise much of a fuss when it didn't come.

"Somebody just threw away my records and that was it," he said. "I kept it in my mind a long time. I had heard that some other folks had gotten their medals straight out, but I came to find it was harder for me."

But finally, after a few decades, Schofield and his wife Lolita decided it was time to set the record straight.

Schofield had been wounded by shrapnel when he was 20 years old, serving in the Army at a place called Pork Chop Hill. He was wounded

Please see PURPLE HEART, Page 11

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News & Information From Your Tribal Council



Daniel Eddy, Jr.
Chairman



Russell Welsh
Vice Chairman



Sylvia Homer
Secretary



Eldred Enas
Treasurer



Dennis Patch



Ray Aspa, Sr.



Herman "TJ"
Laffoon



Valerie Welsh-
Tahbo



Fernando "Bo"
Flores

BIA neglect causing crisis in juvenile detention for tribes throughout Arizona

There is a crisis in Indian Country, but amazingly, no one with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) seems to care.

The federal department, charged with overseeing so many aspects of Native American life, is mired in a dangerous, incompetent juvenile detention approach that is devastating tribal youth and budgets throughout Arizona.

At least seven tribes — the Havasupai, Hualapai, White Mountain Apache, Tonto-Payson, Yavapai-Apache, Yavapai-Prescott and CRIT — believe the efforts are being managed so bizarrely and incompetently that they have no choice but to speak up and to ask for immediate assistance from Arizona's congressional delegation.

The BIA has removed juveniles from tribal detention facilities, forcing them to be transported to multiple states. Using tribal law enforcement officers for these long trips means fewer officers remaining on duty to protect citizens on the reservation.

Such transport also removes officers from adult detention centers which can create unsafe conditions for detainees and officers alike. And locating juveniles extreme distances from their communities decreases the ability of families to visit and tribal rehabilitation services to be deployed — a situation that ultimately increases recidivism, sometimes dramatically.

Despite its legal obligation to fund and oversee tribal juvenile detention programs, the BIA has failed to pay for the extraordinary transports and radical changes in the program, denying tribes of precious resources they otherwise need for health care and education.

Not only that, but the BIA has refused to respond to repeated letters and entreaties on this subject throughout 2006.

CRIT is currently working to address the problem by building its own juvenile detention center. The Tribes have received a grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development for about half the cost of construction. CRIT tax revenue will be utilized for the project.

But the facility is currently in the planning phases — CRIT recently selected an architecture firm to design the building — and is not expected to be open for at least a year to 18 months from now.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs' unbelievable abdication of responsibility is unacceptable. CRIT and other Arizona tribes need help with this problem, and they need it now.

— Letters to the Editor —

Miss CRIT thanks Tribal members

The year has certainly brought surprises and opportunities to travel and meet the surrounding communities and get to learn more about their traditions. It was also a great opportunity to represent my tribes while living in Parker with the support of my family, elders and especially the students who taught me a lot about the Mohave dances and traditions. It was an opportunity to share my cultures and traditions and for the spotlight to shine on my reservation and people.

I thank my grandmother, my mother, my aunt Rosanna, my best friend Russ and my family for their support and help. Jr. Miss CRIT Mandy Savada and family, Little Miss CRIT Nikayla and family — we had some awesome trips and learning experiences. The Recreation Department for supporting the royalty and my "Susan" days. The CRIT Royalty Committee, the Tribal departments, the community of Parker, and all those who are helping me in preparation for the Miss Indian Arizona Pageant and my continuation to graduate school — those are just to name a few, but the list goes on.

I will not stop representing our unique tribe. I will continue to represent. I speak to all the generations who are thinking about trying out for the pageant or are in any circumstance. We have the rest of our lives to live and there are endless opportunities out there. If you haven't heard me say it, I always say "Nothing is impossible unless you don't even try."

Again, I thank everyone for your support throughout the year.

Susan Ann Welsh, Miss CRIT

Article contains error

I recently read an article in the Manataba Messenger concerning the teacher program at ASU. The comment made in the article said that "Right now there are no Native American teachers in the Parker Unified School District," I would like to set the record straight currently there are 5 Native American teachers: Shawn Thompson 3 years LePera, Jackie Flores 3 years PHS, Jackie White 10 or more years PHS, Carol Hammond 15 years LePera, and Wilma McKenzie 22 years LePera. I am really surprised that Mr. Cravath and or CRIT Education did not know this. I just feel it is important for your readers to know that WE are here.

Wilma McKenzie

Parker Unified School District

I read the recent article in the Messenger (Volume IV Issue IV), entitled CRIT Students in

Teaching Program. The statement that was made was "Right now, there are no Native American Teachers in the Parker Unified School District." As a CRIT tribal member, and a certified elementary school teacher, working as a fourth grade teacher at Le Pera Elementary School, I know that this statement is not true. I am not the only Native American teacher here at Le Pera there are also two other Native American teachers employed here at Le Pera. I have even had Jay Cravath come and make presentations to my classes. He has also gone on a trip with my 4th grade class to the Heard Museum.

Shawn Thompson

Le Pera Elementary School

(NOTE: The Manataba Messenger *apologizes for this error*).

Car seats make big difference

In the month of August, 2006, I received car seat education and training from Leo Scott of the Community Health Representative Department. Two days after receiving the car seats from Leo, I was in a near accident while transporting children.

Thanks to Leo's training, the seats were properly installed in the car and used the "correct way." Most importantly, none of the children were harmed.

Thank you CHR Department!

Elizabeth Krause

Parent Aide, CRIT CPS

Elections important to future

Soon we will begin the election process for seats on the Tribal Council.

It is hopeful that many Tribal members will come to the ballot boxes and render their decision on who will be their representative for

Please see LETTERS, Page 12

Let us know what you think!

The *Manataba Messenger* encourages letters to the editor. We will publish a maximum of 250 words; longer letters will be edited for length.

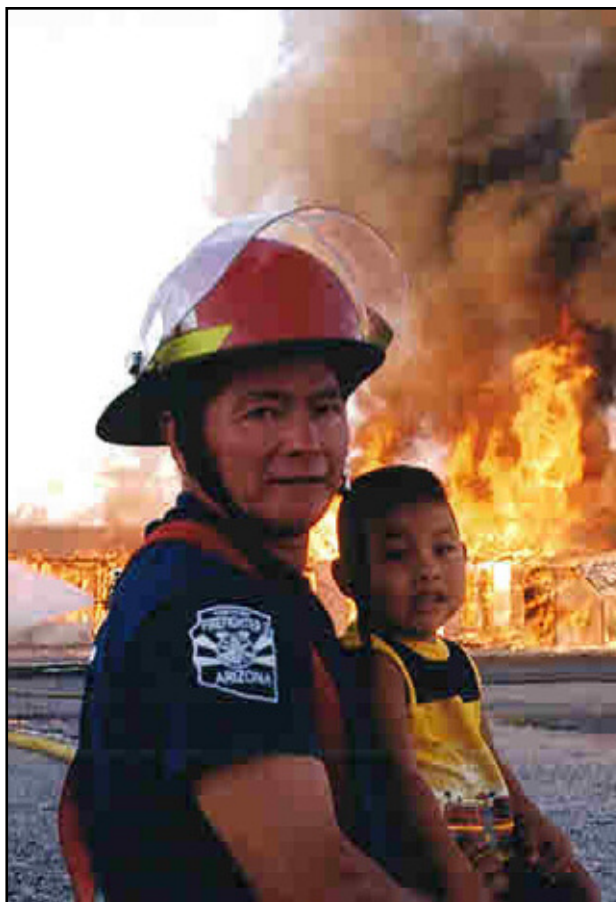
You may send letters to:

Route 1, Box 23-B

Parker, AZ 85344

You may also e-mail letters to
feedback@critonline.com

Entries showcase children, land, memories



Submit now, win in December

First place in the *Manataba Messenger* photo contest for October goes to Erica Webb of Parker for her photo of Veronica Webb (below right). She will receive \$100.

Second place goes to Hanna Tiger of Parker for her photo of grandson Malley with cake on his face (top right). She will receive \$50. Third place goes to Terri Lewis of Parker for her photo of daughter Seneca Enas (bottom left). She will receive \$25.

Honorable mentions go to:

- Tim Stevens of Needles, Calif. for his photo of Marcia Mahone of the Las Vegas Paiute tribe in traditional dress (second from bottom left).

- Jacque Elmer for her photo of Hopi fields in Moenkopi (second from top left).

- Ann Sakiestewa for her picture in memory of late brother Cedric (top left), who passed away on Sept. 15, 2005. The family wanted to say, "It's been one tough year and we've missed you."

- Barney Aspa with son Mykah at a control burn (top middle).

The deadline for submissions for the December 1 issue is November 15. You must be a tribal member, and no professional portraits are eligible.

Send your picture to: *Manataba Messenger*, C/O Rose & Allyn, 7051 E. 5th Avenue Suite B, Scottsdale, AZ 85251. Or, you may just e-mail the entry to feedback@critonline.com.



Tribal elections coming in December; schedule set

From Page 1

resignations and present them to Tribal Council.

Special Tribal Council meeting at 1:30 p.m. to certify the Eligible Voter’s List. Approve Official Nomination Petition and Declaration of Candidacy Form.

• Friday, October 6 — Posting of the Eligible Voter’s List in designated areas: Tribal Administrative Center, PHS Indian Hospital, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Irataba Hall, Parker Post Office, Poston Post Office.

• Saturday, October 14 — Regular Tribal Council meeting. Tribal Council to declare vacant Tribal Council positions.

• Monday, October 16 — Petitions available for candidates at the Enrollment Department, Tribal Administrative Center.

• Thursday, November 2 — Petition Deadline for all candidates. Petitions are to be returned to the Enrollment Department by 5 p.m.

• Monday, November 6 — Special Tribal Council meeting at 9 a.m. Tribal Council to certify petitions of candidates. Review of any referenda to be included on the election ballot. Review and select the Election Ballot Format. Selection of the Election Board Committee.

• Wednesday, November 8 — Posting names of qualified candidates in the Tribal Administrative Center and the PHS Indian Hospital.

• Thursday, November 9 — Absentee Ballot Request Forms due by 5 p.m.

• Monday, November 13 — Election Board Meeting at 6 p.m.

• Thursday, November 14 — Absentee Ballots available for pick-up at the Enrollment Department. Mail-out of absentee ballots requested by Tribal members.

• Monday, November 27 — Election Board Meeting at 6 p.m. Duties, counting of ballots and scaling of ballot boxes.

• Saturday, December 2 — General Election,

6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

DISTRICT I — Tribal Administrative Center

DISTRICT II — Headstart Valley School

• Monday, December 4 — Certification of the election results by the Tribal Council at 9 a.m. in the Tribal Council chambers. Open to the public.

• Tuesday, January 2, 2007 — Installation of Tribal Council members at 9 a.m. in the Tribal Council Chambers.

Any member of the Colorado River Indian Tribes who meets certain criteria, and who turns in a nominating petition with at least 10 signatures from active Tribal members over 18 years of age no later than 30 days before the election, may run for a Tribal Council position.

The criteria mentioned above include being an enrolled member of CRIT, being at least 25 years old, and living on the CRIT reservation for at least one year before the election.

The *Manataba Messenger* will include statements from those running for office in the December issue.

CRIT Meth Coalition attends workshop on meth use, impact on communities

By the CRIT Meth Coalition

In keeping up its efforts to fight methamphetamine use, CRIT’s Tribal Meth Coalition recently attended the National Congress of American Indians Country Meth Initiative Task Force meeting, held at NCAI’s annual convention in Sacramento.

The week-long event included workshops and assemblies on how Tribal health, culture, employment, administration and families are affected by drug use.

During the task force meeting, Native people from across the country spoke about how meth use has evolved into epidemic proportions in Tribal communities. The open session allowed audience members to voice their concerns, share accomplishments and ask for guidance from fellow Native people.

The Tribal Law and Policy Institute, National Drug Endangered Children’s Alliance and a children’s justice specialist provided a national update on meth impacts on Tribal children. A high percentage of children are being neglected, abused and exposed to second-hand smoke. Many tribes are having former meth users share the harsh realities of meth, and are using more aggressive promotional messages and aiming toward extended family members. Preventing first-time use has become a priority for many Tribes.

The Crow Nation shared their “Meth Education Toolkit” project, which is one of the most accomplished projects in Indian Country. The CRIT Meth Coalition’s project is similar to the Crow project, and CRIT Coalition members were proud to have their efforts validated. Meth has taken Native communities by storm, and many current rehab facilities are not specific for meth treatment or have waiting lists.

Due to the large turnout at the meeting, a second meeting was scheduled later in the week. Other breakout sessions covered meth use as part

Group hosts Red Ribbon Breakfast

The CRIT Meth Coalition will be hosting the 2nd Annual Red Ribbon Breakfast at the BlueWater Resort & Casino on October 27. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. with the breakfast served at 8:15 a.m. Due to space and funding, seating is limited to the first 200 participants. The CRIT Meth Coalition is a grassroots Tribal coalition developed to educate the Tribal community on the harmful effects of methamphetamine. This year’s breakfast promises to be informative, innovative and as exciting as last year’s breakfast, as well as providing community education and training. For more information call (928) 669-5243.

of topics such as health and education. Reforming local laws and changing society’s acceptance of methamphetamine are major steps toward recovery for Tribes.

A vicious cycle is created by meth use. Families are broken and destroyed. Children are put into foster care due to abuse and neglect. Health systems and drug prevention program funds are depleted. Jails are overcrowded and detention facilities not available for juvenile offenders. Children experience learning and developmental disabilities. Heads of household lose their jobs. Babies are born positive for meth, and some have physical deformities. Some tribes have elders and administrators abusing or selling the drug as well. More sadly, we are facing deaths and homicides involving adults and children. With this dark reality, Tribal leaders and programs and being held responsible for their people and are expected to address these problems with very few resources.

Current NCAI legislative initiatives are proposing funding specifically for meth prevention and treatment.



MANATABA MESSENGER Recipe Contest

Estelle S. Pete of Laguna Niguel, Calif. is the winner of the First-Annual Manataba Messenger Recipe Contest. She will receive \$100 for her recipe for “Virg’s Turkey Chili.”

- 1 lb. ground turkey (lean but not extra lean)
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 1 green bell pepper, chopped
- 2 celery stalks, finely chopped (optional)
- 1 29 oz. can Sunrise Vista pinto beans, undrained (can substitute kidney beans)
- 1 14.5 ox. can stewed tomatoes, undrained
- 1 cup water
- 1/4 cup white vinegar
- 2 tsp. chili powder
- 1 tsp. cumin
- 1 tsp. parsley flakes
- 1 tsp. basil
- 1 tsp. cilantro flakes
- 1 tsp. oregano
- 1-1 1/2 tsp. cayenne pepper (optional, for a spicier flavor)

Brown turkey in stew pot — do not drain. Add chopped onions, bell pepper and celery into stew pot. Cook for 10 minutes or until onion and bell pepper soften. Add water and white vinegar into stew pot. In small bowl, measure and mix all spices. Add mixed spices into stew pot. Pour stewed tomatoes into separate bowl and chop tomatoes (or puree). Add undrained beans and stewed tomatoes into stew pot. Stir all, and cover and simmer on low heat for one hour.

Congratulations to Estelle on her terrific recipe!

Students experience Shakespeare

Seats still available for students for presentation of play in Phoenix

The Arizona Theatre Company (ATC), in conjunction with the CRIT Education Department and the Parker Unified School District, have partnered to offer Shakespeare to our Native Americans students.

Through a National Endowment for the Arts Grant, ATC will bring its actors here to do a series of workshops on *Twelfth Night*.

Included will be acting lessons from selected scenes along with discussion of the use of soliloquy — when a character makes a speech as if thinking out loud.

Then, on Wednesday, October 18, the students will board buses for a trip to Phoenix to see a production of the play, which will be presented at 10:30 a.m. at the Herberger Theatre. Parker School District will provide buses that will depart for Phoenix at 7 a.m. Arizona Theatre Company members will subsequently return to Parker and do a follow-

up workshop. In addition to these workshops, an informative play guide will be distributed free of charge to all teachers. It will include a special section specific to the Shakespeare workshops.

This will provide a unique opportunity for those interested in theater. Merie Candelario, the new drama teacher at the high school, will be including her 23 students involved in the staging of another Shakespeare production, *The Taming of the Shrew*.

That leaves 67 slots open, as we have been given 90 student seats and 10 for chaperones. Though the grant emphasizes Native American participation, all interested students of junior high or high school age are encouraged to contact the sponsors of the project, as availability allows.

If you are interested in attending the performance of *Twelfth Night* in Phoenix, contact Merie Candelario at (928) 669-2202 ext. 1066 or Dr. Jay Cravath at (928) 669-8831 for further information.

Upcoming Events

Events coming to BlueWater Resort

• The Relics-N-Rods “Run to the Sun” Power Run will be held on Thursday October 19. Come in and see over 200 custom cars and hot rods from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at BlueWater. For more information on the Poker Run contact Walter or Beverly Foxcroft at (928) 453-9683 or email at foxcrofts@yahoo.com.

• The 2nd Annual BlueWater Resort & Casino “300” Enduro will be held on Saturday, October 21. Boat racers do 60 laps from BlueWater to approximately Badenoch’s. For more information on this event contact Ross Wallach at (562) 633-6200 or email at rossdbos26@yahoo.com.

• The BlueWater River Run 2006 will be held from October 26-29 at the Avi Suquilla airport. Scale models of Reno-styles air racers with actual speeds over 200 miles per hour. Free admission, and races start at 9 a.m. each day. For more information on this event contact Denny or Barbara Baker at (925) 513-1224 or email Race690@aol.com.

• The annual BlueWater Resort & Casino Halloween Costume Party will be held on Tuesday October 31 in the Dig Lounge. Cash prizes will be award for best costumes — \$500 for 1st Place, \$300 for 2nd place and \$200 for 3rd Place. For more information contact Dempsey Holt at (928) 669-7035 or email dholt@bluewaterfun.com.

• The All Veteran’s Recognition Day will be on Saturday November 11 at the BlueWater Amphitheatre. For more information on this event contact Edward Yava at (928) 669-3209, Beatrice Herder at (928) 916-2088 or Phoebe Welch at (928) 669-0573.

• The Sixth-Annual BlueWater Resort & Casino Triathlon will be held on Sunday November 12. The triathlon starts on the BlueWater Resort & Casino with a one-mile swim in the Colorado River, and the event finishes at the Resort atrium. For more information on this annual event contact Eddie Carlin at (928) 526-8761 or visit www.mountainmanevents.com.

• The annual Fall Gathering will be held on Saturday, November 18. Held in concert with the Colorado River Indian Tribes Cultural Tourism Office, this event will focus on the preservation of authentic tribal dance, song and authentic handmade arts and crafts. For more information and times for this event contact Ron Charles at (928) 669-6757.

• On Saturday November 18, BlueWater Resort & Casino presents “ A Tribute to the Righteous Brothers” starring Doug Master & Gene Sironen. There will be two shows that night. Doors open at 4 p.m. for the first show at 5 p.m. and reopen at 7:30 p.m. for the second show at 8 p.m. Tickets are on sale in the Gift Shop for \$10 in advance and \$15 day-of-show.

• BlueWater Resort & Casino proudly presents The 60th Annual Thanksgiving Regatta Speed Boat Races. Races will be held in front of the beach area of BlueWater on Friday and Saturday, November 24-25. For more information contact Ross Wallach at (310) 318-4012 or rossdboss26@yahoo.com, or visit

Please see EVENTS, Page 11

Announcements

Birthday Announcements

Happy Birthday to my family:
Micah Harper (9/9)
Buzzy Laffoon (9/12)
Mosa Abendroth (9/14)
Marie Harper (914)
Orion Flood (9/15)
Auntie Moochie (9/18)
Tahnee Sharpe (9/20)
Hillary Laffoon (9/23)
Beth Lafoon (9/24)
Tara Fisher (9/24)
Denise Homer (9/25)
Diane Powell (9/27)
Lawanda Laffoon (9/30)
Honey Laffoon (10/11)
River Flood (10/16)
Colleen Florence (10/19)
Miles Laffoon (10/24)
Es-Mana Lomayesva (10/30)
Daris Laffoon (10/31)
Tori Sanchez (11/4)
Allyx Harper (11/9)
Ashley Homer (11/9)
Danny Powell (11/10)
Leanne Logan(11/10)
Jeramee Logan (11/24)
Deaun Johnson (12/1)
Mickey Sue Johnson (12/2)
Veronica Homer (12/5)
Damien Cuadras (12/11)
Fury (12/14)
Vicki Laffoon (12/17)
John Laffoon (12/28)
Happy Birthday to all of you!
From Secretary Homer

• Happy Birthday and Happy Thanksgiving to Michelle Gonzales (Turkey Day). From

Mickey and Cindy
• Happy Birthday Cousin Lela McCowan (11/11). From Mickey, Cory and Deaun
• Happy Birthday Viola (OLO)Anderson (9/30). From Mickey, Deaun, Sheila, and Leyla
• Happy Birthday Son River Flood (10/16). From Dad Cory
• Happy Birthday "Bubble Eyes" (12/1). From Dad
• Happy Birthday MOM Vicki Laffoon(12/17). Love, Your Son Cory
• Happy Birthday Sylvia "Cindy" Homer (10/16). From Cory, Mickey, and Deaun
• Happy Birthday Auntie Moe (10/26). From Mickey, Sheila and Adrian
• Happy Birthday Grandma Moe (10/26). From Leyla and Deaun

• Happy Birthday to my crazy “mucho loca amiga” Mickey Sue Johnson. From Gonzo Girl
• Happy Birthday to my son in law Christopher Bender. Keep up the good work. You have been a good provider and father. You have a great heart and I appreciate you in spite of. Freddy would be proud. Mom Gonzo

A Happy Birthday to my “LOVE BUG” Deaun Johnson (December 1). From Mom and Dad

The Manataba Messenger accepts announcements on graduations, awards, engagements, obituaries and many other special occasions and events.

To submit an announcement, see the contact information on Page 12 of this issue.

34th Annual Native American Days Celebration



Festival promotes art, culture, music

The 34th Annual Native American Days Celebration and surrounding activities provided for yet another great event for Tribal members and visitors.

The event was held on October 6 and 7. It is one of the finest cultural exchanges in the Southwest and was well attended by Tribal, local, and out-of-town visitors.

There were also artisans who came to sell their excellent handmade native arts and crafts. All were welcome to this free event.

The event included a Pow Wow, a parade, a barbecue, a Native American baby contest and a Native American Film Day at CRIT Theaters.

The Miss CRIT Pageant was also held in conjunction with Native American Days. It took place the prior weekend. For more on the pageant, see the article on Page 8.

The event was a tremendous success and

an opportunity for CRIT and its four tribes to show off their culture and heritage to the outside world.

It was a success and made everyone look forward to the 35th Anniversary of the event, which will be coming in 2007.

CRIT would like to thank everyone who participated in the event for their hard work.

(Top left) One of the younger spectators at the Pow Wow prepares himself for a fun-filled day.

(Middle left) A participant in the Grand Entry Parade prepares to entertain the audience.

(Lower left) From left to right, Michael Hunter, Eldred Enas and Clyde Short have led the Grand Entry for the past five years.

(Above) Participants file in for the Grand Entry parade. They walk in a circle then stop to perform a prayer.

(Below) The color guard presents the colors at the Grand Entry parade.





(Top left) Contestants in the cradleboard contest show off their beautiful children.
(Middle left) The CRIT participants in North American Indigenous Games this past summer were the Grand Marshals of this year's Native American Days parade.
(Bottom left) Navajo Code Talker and CRIT Tribal member Tom Claw rode in the parade.
(Top) One of the men's grass dancers performs for the audience at the Pow Wow.
(Below) A group of Tribal singers called The Tribe recorded a CD at the Pow Wow.
Photos courtesy of Valerie Welsh-Tahbo



New Miss CRIT and Tribal royalty crowned for 2006-2007

By Valerie Welsh-Tahbo

Pageant Director, President of the CRIT Royalty Board

One night of fun filled pageantry unveiled three new Tribal queens at the 45th annual Miss CRIT Pageant, where seven young tribal member ladies vied for the title of Miss, Junior and Little Miss Colorado River Indian Tribes 2006-07.

The new Miss Colorado River Indian Tribes 2006-07 went to Ernestine Ameelyenah, the 18-year-old daughter of Derrick and Cynthia Ameelyenah.

Ernestine is Navajo and Mohave, and recently graduated from Parker High School. Ernestine’s plans are to pursue a career in the public health field and maximizing the scholarship that she is now eligible for by being a title holder. Ernestine had to complete all areas of the competition, including modeling traditional regalia and modern dress; a traditional talent, where she demonstrated how to make a Navajo bun; and interview questioning.

Four contestants vied for the title of Junior Miss CRIT. The title went to Jaymee Li Moore, a Mohave, Chemehuevi, and Hopi. She is the 16-year-old daughter of Lynette Stevens and Jonathan R. Moore, and she is in the 11th grade at Parker High School. Jaymee also received the Neat As a Pin and Talent awards. Jaymee performed a Hopi warrior’s dance for her talent.

The First Attendant to Junior Miss CRIT are Mariah Allison Charles a Mohave, Paiute, and Tohono O’odham.

Toni Marie Stone was named Second



(From Left to Right): Junior Miss CRIT Jaymee Li Moore, Little Miss CRIT Katherine Delphina Carlyle and Miss CRIT Ernestine Ameelyenah.

Attendant to Junior Miss CRIT.

ShuNeen T. Hogan, who’s 14 years old, took 3rd Attendant.

Eight-year-old Katherine Delphina Carlyle was named the Little Miss CRIT titleholder. She is

the granddaughter of Neva Eddy. Katherine is Mohave and Pima and currently in the 3rd grade at Blake Elementary School. Katherine enlightened the audience with her knowledge of the Mohave language by naming animals and counting in the indigenous language. Katherine was also the recipient of the “Talent Award” and “Miss Congeniality” across all three divisions of candidates.

The youngest in this category received the 1st Attendant title — Tracie Jean Stanley, the 8-year-old daughter of Shelly Short and Orman Stanley, Jr. Tracie is a Mohave and performed a Mohave Bird dance, dedicating her performance to all the Colorado River Indian Tribal Band members past and present. For this, received the “Most Traditional Award.”

The outgoing Miss 2005-06, Susan Welsh, will now head to Chandler, Arizona to compete in the Miss Indian Arizona pageant.

Best wishes to all our outgoing royalty — Junior Miss Mandy Sevade and Little Miss NiKayla Martin — for taking a year out of their lives to represent the people of CRIT.

Special thanks to the visiting royalty from neighboring Ft. Mojave, Hualapai, Wa:ak Pow-Wow Princesses, and Little Miss St. Charles, San Carlos Apache.

Greatest appreciation goes to the CRIT Tribal Council for their committed support and the contestants themselves, their families, friends and relatives. Look for applications for next year in July 2007.

CRIT Briefs News from around the CRIT Reservation

Food Program open to members

The Food Distribution Program on the CRIT Reservation offers a variety of nutritious foods to low-income households and Native Americans living within a 25-mile radius of the reservation. This includes the Town of Parker and Big River, California. Anyone — both Native Americans and non-Indians living within these boundaries — may qualify. Each month a basic food package is issued to each participating household in quantities determined by its member size.

The program provides food for a healthy diet — grains, meats, beans, dairy, fruits and vegetables, dried or canned, frozen hamburger, chicken, bison, fresh fruit and vegetables. It is considered supplemental and is not meant to be the participant’s sole source of food.

The participant can not receive food stamps while in the program. WIC participants, however, can sign up for the program.

The current net monthly income guidelines are as follows:

- 1 person — \$951
- 2 persons — \$1,234
- 3 people — \$1,518
- 4 people — \$1,801
- 5 people — \$2,112
- 6 people — \$2,420
- 7 people — \$2,703
- 8 people — \$2,986

- For each additional member add \$284.00. All household may have up to \$1,750 worth or resources (for example, cash, bank accounts, stock, etc.). Households for two or more with one member over the age of 60 can have \$3,000.00.

Eligibility is also based on employment income, SSI, AFDC, pensions, and other factors. Excluded is income for leases, JPTA and summer youth programs. SSI is not accepted from the state of California.

Households interested in applying can call CRIT Food Distribution Program or pick up an application at the office, which is located on Second Avenue and Mohave Road (next door to Manataba Park playground). The hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Phone numbers are (928) 669-1283 and 669-1284.

Services available to CRIT seniors

The CRIT Senior Citizen Program provides home delivered meals, homemaking services, rides for elders who have no transportation to go shopping, pay bills, or who just want to come and join us for lunch here at the Center. Lunch is served at the center from 12-1 p.m. Monday through Friday. Seniors who need a ride may call (928) 662-4283 by 9:00 a.m. for pickup.

Activities for the month include shopping in Lake Havasu City, Bingo twice a month, a day at the movies, exercise on Tuesdays, mail check every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and grocery shopping every Wednesday. The program provides arts and crafts every Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Should you have any questions please feel

free to call the Senior Program at (928) 662-4283.

Pesticide program ramps up

The CRIT Environmental Protection Office Pesticide Program Inspectors have been working with local farmers to educate about how our current Tribal Pesticide Code works.

In order to meet program and farming operation demands, where the identification of pesticides can be abundant, the EPO has hosted a series of workshops where growers, employees, and contractors can learn about safety features with regard to worker protection standards, above-ground storage tank safety standards and compliance, and what employers need to know with regard to handling and use of pesticides.

Worker protection standards require that all agricultural workers must be properly trained to handle and apply pesticides. These standards also require the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when a pesticide is being handled or applied, and must be properly cleaned after each use. Applicators of the pesticide must carefully understand that when a highly toxic chemical is used, worker protection standards require the treated area(s) be posted with warning signs 24 hours prior to application. This is to ensure that all agricultural workers and community members who attempt to enter the chemically treated areas are informed.

Also, CRIT will soon be kicking off the first ever Tribal Pesticide Software. The EPO is troubleshooting the software now and hopes to

JOM kids meet Smokey at Camp



From left to right, sitting: Rochelle Gonzalez, Darrius Fernandez, Tori Sanchez, Grant Sharp, Tyler Scott, Johnny Kirk, Bobbie Esquerro. Kneeling: Tyson Esquerro, R.J. Martinez, Jerimicah Sands, Stacia Scott, Mariah Sharpe, Marcus Tuchewo. Standing: Christopher Martinez, Jayann Sage Peck, Vernon Short, Tracie Stanley, Antonio Nopah, Tylor Harper, Cody Esquerro, Elijah Sharp.

The CRIT Summer Youth Enrichment Camp was held June 12-30. Children were visited by Tribal elders and leaders to learn about CRIT's rich and unique histories, and various Tribal departments to learn about varying roles of service.

After the completion of each summer session, Tribal youth visited the Tribal Council to share their learning experience.

Activities included in the enrichment camp are learning about the Tribal Seal and Flag, and learning the traditional language for colors and numbers from all four distinct

Tribes of the Mohave, Chemehuevi, Hopi, and Navajo people. Health topics were also emphasized as part of the program.

"Our Tribal children need more opportunity to enrich their lives with our unique culture and to be stimulated by our history," said Lana Flood, JOM Director. "This camp provides them with some insight, and offers a chance to bridge culture and health together." The children were visited by Smokey the Bear as part of the program. JOM would like to thank CRIT Wildland Fire for bringing him in.

Diabetes programs encourage focus on improved health

Two CRIT programs are working diligently to help Tribal members prevent the onset of diabetes.

The CRIT Diabetes Prevention Program is targeting Tribal members who have a family history of diabetes and have 15 or more pounds to lose. Native Americans have some of the highest rates of diabetes in the world, and the number of individuals affected rises each year.

The Diabetes Prevention Program has received a grant to fight the spread of the disease, and is looking for Tribal members to take part in the program. The program will test for any signs of diabetes and will work with participants to make small, slow changes in diet and exercise that will not overwhelm the participant.

To find out more, call the Diabetes Prevention Program at (928) 669-8090.

Additionally, the CRIT Special Diabetes Project has opened its fitness center, located at 13367 First Avenue, to help Tribal members.

The 6,600 square foot facility is the home of 43 "state-of-the-art" Nautilus and Stairmaster cardiovascular and strength training equipment and a 16-station aerobic/anaerobic circuit exercise program. A stretching area, resistance balls, jump ropes, incline bench and 1-50 pound free weights are available to provide the participant with a variety of exercises.

The staff members of the CRIT Special Diabetes Project are eager to help members achieve their wellness goals. If you are a member of a Federally Recognized Tribe who lives on or near the CRIT reservation or a tribal employee, you are eligible for the program.

Fitness center hours are Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m., and the facility is open every other Saturday.

For more information about the program or how to become a registered participant, call (928) 669-2825.

BRIEFS,

From Page 1

have it running around the first of the year. If you have any questions regarding the program, call (928) 662-4336.

Deadline approaching for training

The CRIT Career Development Office has a deadline approaching for Higher Education and Adult Vocational Training for qualified tribal members who wish to attend accredited post-secondary schools in January 2007. Apply through the office's website, www.crit-cdo.com, or call 1-800-809-6207 to see if you are eligible.

Committee looking for volunteers

The 35th Annual Native American Days

Committee 2007 is looking for volunteers now for next year. As always it is an enormous undertaking coordinating the anticipated community wide event, which is why those who have participated by volunteering their time over the years are soliciting your help. If you have new ideas, can squeeze some time into your schedule and enjoy working hard for free, then call Valerie at (928) 669-5548. Many thanks go to Ron Charles for overseeing the Days for the last few years, who has announced he would like to pass on the torch.

CRIT Royalty schedules fundraiser

The 7th Annual Evening with Royalty is scheduled for November 24. Dinner tickets are \$20 per plate, which include a New York strip steak dinner, door prizes, entertainment and a Native American fashion show. The Royalty Board hosts this annual event to raise funds for their scholarship, given to the senior queen, and

for travel expenses. The Board requests seamstresses to submit their entries no later the November 22. The designs must be of a traditional Native American regalia or a Native American contemporary adaptation. For more information contact Flora at (928) 669-9285.

Behavioral Health increases hours

CRIT Behavioral Health Services now has a full complement of staff members, with three therapists and a mental health worker.

Thanks to the increased staffing level, the office has been able to increase the number of hours available for Tribal members and their families to receive services.

The new expanded hours of operation are from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Fridays, and 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturdays.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (928) 669-3256.

Local, state and federal offices to be decided in November 7 vote

Below is a list of races for local, state and federal office on the November 7 ballot:

La Paz County Offices

- Clerk of Superior Court
- Sheri Newman (Republican)
- Judge of Superior Court
- Michael Burke (Democrat)
- Precinct 4 Justice of the Peace
- E.M. “Beth” Williams (R)
- Precinct 5 Justice of the Peace
- Joe Dechaine (D)
- Larry Tallerday (R)
- Precinct 6 Justice of the Peace
- Charlene Shontz Weis (R)
- Kathy Field (D)
- Donald Schlecht (Independent)

Town of Parker

There will be two questions on the ballot:

- 1) Shall a franchise be granted to Southwest Gas Corporation?
- 2) Shall the Fire District adopt the 2003 International Fire Code?

State and Federal Office

- State Senator, District 3
- Ron Gould (R)
- Noah Harris (D)

- State Senator, District 24
- Russ Jones (R)
- Amanda Aguirre (D)
- Stanley Lenihan (Reform)
- State Rep., District 3 (vote for 2)
- Trish Groe (R)
- Nancy McLain (R)
- Luis Lopez (D)
- State Rep., District 24 (vote for 2)
- Joseph “Mel” Melchionne (R)
- Ken Rosevear (R)
- Lynne Pancrazi (D)
- Theresa Ulmer (D)
- Rodney Martin (Reform)
- Governor
- Len Munsil (R)
- Janet Napolitano (D)
- Barry J. Hess II (L)
- Secretary of State
- Jan Brewer (R)
- Israel Torres (D)
- Ernest Hancock (L)
- Attorney General
- Bill Montgomery (R)
- Terry Goddard (D)
- State Treasurer
- Dean Martin (R)
- Rano Singh (D)
- Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Tom Horne (R)
- Jason Williams (D)
- State Mine Inspector
- Joe Hart (R)

- Corporation Commissioner (vote for 2)
- Kris Mayes (R)
- Gary Pierce (R)
- Richard Boyer (D)
- Mark Manoil (D)
- Rick Fowlkes (L)
- U.S. Senator
- Jon Kyl (R)
- Jim Pederson (D)
- Richard Mack (Libertarian)
- U.S. Representative in Congress, District 2
- Trent Franks (R)
- John Thrasher (D)
- Powell Gammill (L)
- U.S. Representative in Congress, District 7
- Ron Drake (R)
- Raul Grijalva (D)
- Joe Cobb (L)

The La Paz County Elections Office can help you make sure you are registered to vote and find your polling location for the November 7 General Election.

Contact the Office at (928) 669-6115, or visit www.co.la-paz.az.us/elections.htm to find out more information.

A number of ballot propositions will be decided in the election as well.

For more information on those propositions, visit the state elections office web site at www.azsos.gov/election/.

Campers construct medieval engines

Build ‘trebuchets’ using math, physics

Local Tribal students learned the practical and not-so-practical uses of math, physics, and carpentry at a Fall Intersession Camp held at Ahakhav Preserve from October 2- 6.

Local teenagers, mostly CRIT members, worked in teams to learn about the structure and mechanics of model trebuchet engines and then spent several days designing and building the machines. Trebuchets are fearsome medieval war machines used most famously by England’s Edward I to lay siege to enemy castle walls and batter them to smithereens. Full sized trebuchets were capable of hurling boulders 200 yards.

On the last day of camp the engines were pitted against each other in tests of speed, accuracy, distance, and destructive capacity.

The youth used pumpkins and watermelons as their missiles, because according to Annie Morton the Preserve’s Environmental Education Coordinator “they explode quite satisfactorily.”

The finished trebuchets stand from 20-25 feet tall and should be able to fling 15 pound pumpkins over 150 feet.

To showcase the campers’ work, the Preserve will be hosting a Family Outreach Harvest Festival on November 4. Families may bring Halloween Jack-O-Lanterns to the Preserve for flinging by the trebuchets. Other activities will include bobbing for apples, sack races, hay rides, pie baking contests, food vendors, and more.

The Preserve also offers camps during summer, fall, and spring intersession as well as field trips for local schools.

Native American Days features health fair

This year’s Native American Days Celebration highlighted "Healthy Living Through Native Culture." In an effort to address and acknowledge our past and future regarding health disparities and healthy living, the CRIT Department of Health Services hosted a Tribal Health Fair, with local and outside agencies who work closely with CRIT DHS and Indian Health Services.

The combined efforts at this year’s Health Fair resulted in hundreds of people attending. A total of 30 programs were well represented. All ages participated in this years event, and the Tribal Chairman granted one hour of Administrative Leave to Tribal employees encouraging them to participate.

Free food, games, and drawings provided an incentive for all visitors. Dora the Explorer made her presence, sponsored by the CRIT Environmental Protection Office, who gave away two child playhouses to kick off their Lead Based Paint campaign.

Tribal departments participating were Alcohol, Mental Health, Social Services, Diabetes Prevention, Women Infant and Children, Tobacco Education, Community Health Representatives, Diabetes Fitness Center, Food Distribution, Child Protective Services, Senior Program, and Health Administration. Outside agencies consisted of the La Paz Crisis Shelter, and several programs from Indian Health Services.

Other activities leading up to the Health Fair and to support health living was kicked off by the Ribbon Cutting for the Special Diabetes Facility on October 2. Wednesday, Behavioral Health hosted a free movie "Open Season" at



Debra Allen consults with Cheweka Sharpe regarding pre-diabetes screening at the health fair.

the CRIT theatres, where 140 movie goers showed up. Diabetes Prevention and Special Diabetes programs sponsored a breakfast and pre-Diabetes screening at the Indian Health Center on Wednesday, and finally, the Diabetes Fitness Center hosted a 1-3 mile Run/Walk immediately following the Health Fair with over 145 participants.

“This year’s theme allowed our CRIT Health Programs to engage in community based intervention activities, and to bring more services into the community.” said Diana DeLeon, Executive Director for CRIT Department of Health Services. “It is certainly our commitment and responsibility to continue to make this happen.”

CRIT DHS would like to thank all Health Fair goers for coming out and learning more about our Tribal and local Health programs. Please look for the Health Fair next year during the Native American Days festivities.

PURPLE HEART: Veteran's wait for medals finally rewarded

From Page 1

by shrapnel and a concussion grenade, which burned his arm.

Now 76, the Schofields decided a couple of years ago to try to get the medals due to Wesley.

So they worked with the Federal Government, including the FBI, to re-create his records. The process took over a year.

"It sounded like it was going to be a long time," Lolita said. "We thought it might take years."

But one by one, awards and recognition started to stream in. He got a letter from the Korean government thanking him for his service. He received a National Defense Medal, and a Korean Veteran Medal.

Then, on March 31, the Purple Heart arrived. "Just came in the mail," Lolita said.

"Somebody just threw away my records and that was it. I kept it in my mind a long time. I had heard that some other folks had gotten their medals straight out, but I came to find it was harder for me."

— Wesley Schofield
CRIT member

"It's something he takes pride in," she said. "He's a real reserved guy. He doesn't say a whole lot. But when it came in, we were all excited for him."

His family and friends joined him for a celebration in June at the BlueWater Resort & Casino. Wesley has two children, seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild. And he handled it in the same low-key manner with which he approaches everything.

But still, there's a pride for his service to his country. And he said military service is something he'd recommend to young people.

"I never really talk about it," he said. "I know a lot of people who have been through it, but it's not something I ever talk about."

"To me, I feel proud to know that I've served for our reservation and for our country," he said. "I never used to think that way, but I do now."



(Above) Wesley Schofield and his wife Lolita show Wesley's Purple Heart (below left), which he received for being wounded in the Korean War. (Below right) Wesley Schofield while he was in the Army in the early 1950s.



EVENTS,

From Page 5

www.scsracing.com.

- Mark your calendar for Saturday, November 25 and come join us for the Parker's annual Lighted Boat Parade. The parade ends at the River's Edge Cantina located at the BlueWater Resort & Casino beach. For more information and to pick up an application for this event contact the Parker Area Chamber of Commerce at (928) 669-2174.

Dig Lounge Schedule

- Beginning on Wednesday, October 11, the

Dig Lounge bands will be open four days a week Wednesday thru Saturday.

The hours will be from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. on Wednesday and Thursday and from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. on Friday and Saturday nights. DJ/Karaoke will be in the Dig Lounge on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday nights beginning on October 9. The hours for the DJ/Karaoke will be from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

- October 11-14 — Fast Forward, a four-piece band playing classic dance tunes, 50s and 60s, disco, modern rock and alternative.
- October 18-21 — American Made, with a female fronting a four-piece band playing 50s and 60s, Top 40, disco, country and oldies.
- October 25-28 — Swift Kick, with a female fronting a three-piece band specializing in current dance music along with selections from

the 50s through 90s.

- November 1-4 — Suite 33, a high-energy variety dance band featuring Top 40, classic rock, 50s and 60s and dance music.
- November 8-11 — Walker Williams Band, a five-piece band specializing in today's country and classic rock.
- November 15-18 — Pilot, with a female fronting a three-band band playing Rhythm & Blues from the 50s and 60s, Top 40 dance, classic rock, Old School and disco.
- November 22-25 — DNA, a variety dance band playing Rhythm & Blues, Motown, Top 40 dance and classic rock.
- November 29 to December 2 — Clark County Express, a five-piece band specializing in Southern and classic rock, country and dance music.

We Want To Hear From You!

The *Manataba Messenger* is a publication of the Colorado River Indian Tribes.
If you have a question, story idea, suggestion, letter to the editor or anything else you'd like to see in the *Manataba Messenger*, call or write us...

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(928) 669-1233 or
(928) 669-1223
feedback@critonline.com

Also, for a comprehensive listing of key tribal information, back issues of *The Manataba Messenger*, tourism information and other CRIT Tribal information, visit the Tribes' web site:

www.critonline.com

Don't forget the
December photo contest!

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For more information, please call (928) 669-1233 or 669-1223.

CRIT Library to offer mobile computer lab

Thanks to a grant from the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records, the CRIT Library/Archives will be able to implement a mobile computer lab utilizing nine state-of-the-art laptops.
The \$69,000 grant is currently in the development phase, securing bids, buying a vehicle and computer equipment and software, and reading the lab for operations. The mobile lab should be up and running in the next few weeks.
The project is to expand the computer services offered by the library to an underserved rural population.
Outcomes include improved educational opportunities for students and increased job opportunities for adults as well as providing senior citizens with health and other important information through computer and internet access.
The project is based upon needs identified in meetings with the library's institutional partners

— primarily located far from the library and whom a mobile computer lab would benefit.
They include CRIT Head Start, CRIT Senior Center, LePera Elementary School, the Quartzsite Public Library and CRIT Tribal Administration.
The staff will focus on regularly scheduled computer access and training opportunities for the targeted audience of rural reservation and county residents including students, adults and senior citizens.
In 2006, the Arizona State Library received more than \$3 million under the Library Services and Technology Act, which is administered by the institute of Museum and Library Services. Almost \$1 million of the funding is being awarded on a competitive basis to libraries in Arizona, with the remainder to support statewide services such as family literacy and reading programs, electronic databases, digital government initiatives, continuing education classes and other programs.

LETTERS,

From Page 2

the next four years.
So far our economic stability leaves a lot to be desired. We have heard of cut backs, lack of funds, misplaced toys and the termination of people who ran some of our Tribal enterprises. We also find that the Tribe is negotiating to purchase the old Parker Theater, for its liquor license, with the purpose of pursuing a venue for additional funds.
Will the people actually see the benefits of this "opportunity?"
We look toward those who we elect to bring us forward into some degree of prosperity for the future.

Are we depending too much on the casinos and government, and is too much of each destroying us?
Hopefully there will be a secure economy that would benefit all when this generation passes the torch to the next. We as a Tribe must not depend on the casinos or the Tribal Council to benefit us. We must rely on the individual skills and expertise of each Tribal member.
We must look forward to this upcoming election and placing the best candidates that may work toward a working economy and the betterment of Tribal membership.
Listen carefully to what the candidates are saying, and look beyond those words into the hearts and eyes...there you will find the truth.
Edward K. Yava, Sr.
Tribal Member



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